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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

INTELLOFAX 17

COUNTRY Albania

DATE:

SUBJECT The Albanian Army and Police Force

INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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Organization and Strength

- The Albanian Army is organized into three Corps, each having two divisions under its command. A division is composed of three infantry and one artillery regiments, plus engineers and other services. There is also in the Albanian Army one "People's Guards" Division, composed of three regiments.
- Total strength is about 80,000 officers and men, ^{Too high} but this figure is likely to increase as a number of classes have recently been called up. The strength of the various groups within the army is as follows:

Officers and N.C.O.s	12,000
Artillery	5,000
Infantry	35,000
Engineers and other services	5,000
"People's Guards"	15,000
Police	7,000
Yugoslav specialists	2,000

- Each infantry regiment consists of three battalions, each having 200 to 300 men. Each battalion has four companies and a mortar section usually armed with 81 mm. mortars. Each company consists of four platoons with two German quick-firing rifles and one Breda heavy machine gun.
- The "People's Guards" Division has the function of an armed police force. Its three regiments are divided up into twenty-four assault brigades with specialist battalions made up of Frontier Guards.
- The police force proper, the D.M.P. (People's Defense Division) commanded by General Koci Xoxe, has recently been completely reorganized and now consists of the following groups:

- Political Police (in civilian clothes)
- Mountain Police
- Harbor Police
- Highway Police (mans check points on the roads)

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- 2 -

50X1-HUM

Equipment

6. Army equipment is beginning to attain a certain homogeneity. Until recently it consisted largely of small arms and mortars of miscellaneous types used by the Albanian partisans, and included little artillery. There were only a few 75/13 and 75/17 field guns and a few [redacted] German anti-tank guns. 50X1-HUM
7. Since the war Soviet and Yugoslav equipment, including artillery, has been delivered, mainly in Soviet vessels and in Yugoslav sailboats. In 1946 twenty heavy tanks were delivered from the USSR via Yugoslavia.
8. Recently the 3rd Corps at Argyrocastro received consignments of munitions which were delivered by sea in Yugoslav vessels. This corps has also recently received several dozens of 75/17 field guns from the USSR as well as large quantities of hand grenades, woolen clothing, boots and rations. Soviet instructors are training troops under this corps in the use of the newly arrived long-barreled machine guns.

Locations

9. 3rd Army Corps

HQ at Argyrocastro. The largest concentration of troops is in this area near the Greek frontier. Their equipment is good. It is supplied by Yugoslavia. Light weapons of Soviet make include a number of quick-firing rifles. There are also a large number of mortars of Soviet [redacted] construction. 50X1-HUM
Gun positions for medium caliber guns have been put up in this area.

"People's Guards" Division
1st Regiment
2nd Regiment
3rd (Motorized) Regt.

HQ at Tirana
Korca
Santi Quaranta
Scutari

1st Infantry Division
1st Regiment
2nd Regiment
3rd Regiment
Artillery Regt.

HQ at Argyrocastro
Santi Quaranta
Konispol (on the Greek frontier)
Libohov
Delvino

2nd Infantry Division
1st Regiment
2nd Regiment
3rd Regiment
Artillery Regt.

HQ at Korca
Korca
Devoli
Korca area
Pogradetz

3rd Infantry Division
1st Regiment
2nd Regiment
3rd Regiment
Artillery Regt.

HQ at Tirana
Scutari
Valona
Tirana
Tirana

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- 3 -

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W/T School

Tirana

Cavalry School

Tirana. The first cavalry squadrons have recently been activated and are in training by members of the Soviet mission.

Army Expenditures

- 10. In 1946 the Ministries of War and National Defense spent between them 123,882,000 Albanian francs. Included in this total are the costs of constructing military roads running toward the Greek frontier.

Yugoslav and Soviet Influences

- 11. Albanian territory is freely used by the Yugoslav Army. Locations of Yugoslav troops at present in Albania are as follows:

Bilishti (on the Greek frontier) "Ochrida" Division made up of Serbs and Montenegrins.

Elbasan A regiment of Macedonians and Cessovars.

Pogradetz (Qafa Loka) An artillery regiment.

- 12. Recently about 1,500 Albanian ex-partisans, together with recruits, were sent to Yugoslavia. Albanian armored troop cadets have been sent to Bela Grvue, near the Rumanian frontier.
- 13. All Albanian army medical services are under the control of the Soviet medical mission which arrived in Tirana in January.
- 14. A Soviet mountain artillery regiment is stationed in the area Erseka-Tode-Leskovik.

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